

The **newsletter** of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (ISfTeH) is published quarterly for members of the global telemedicine and eHealth community to provide updates about ISfTeH members and activities, as well as other telemedicine and eHealth news.



International Society for
Telemedicine & eHealth
NGO in Official Relations with WHO



Updates from the ISfTeH Global Telemedicine & eHealth Network (July 2016)

Pick up interesting and useful information in this issue about the Global Knowledge commons for m-eHealth Innovations, an mHealth report from the World Health Organisation, how tele-defibrillation saves lives, a new book on a century of telemedicine, distance learning workshop in Antwerp, Danish support for Mexican digital health mapping, Med-e-Tel presentations available online, telemedicine and eHealth events, and more. Enjoy reading!

STAY CONNECTED:



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader,

On behalf of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (ISfTeH) I am proud to announce the availability, in electronic form, of the Report of the Innovation Working Group (IWG) Task Force on the Global Knowledge Commons for m-eHealth Innovations. I was co-chair of the Task Force, with membership from the Center for Health Market Innovation (CHMI), the European Commission, GSMA Health, Harvard University, International Technology Group (ITG), ITU, Kaiser Permanente, the UN Foundation, USAID, WHO. Preparation of the report was supported by a grant from the Norwegian Development Cooperation Agency (Norad).

The report, in four chapters, addresses the key challenge facing digital health, which is that of converting our collective knowledge into a global public good, that is accessible to all, thus enabling each actor in the ecosystem to benefit from what others know. The document postulates that a Global Knowledge Commons (GKC) for innovation in health or simply "the Commons", would be composed of three main constituents:

1. A database of projects, products and services;
2. A "Who is who in eHealth" - individual experts and institutions; and
3. Reusable m-eHealth knowledge objects, in various formats, such as articles, presentations, videos, etc.

The Commons would leverage existing repositories of the digital health space, and lead to five significant beneficial outcomes: 1) Digital intelligence at-a-glance through dash-boards by geography, application area and thematic area; 2) Clearinghouse for IP on digital health issues; 3)

Development of new knowledge as well as the reinforcement of partnerships; 4) More effective and efficient use of eHealth resources through better use and re-use of digital health experience; 5) Availability of instruments for transforming the knowledge from the Commons into new products and services through creation of product development partnerships (PDPs) and incubator systems for digital health innovation.

The report concludes that three key factors distinguish the GKC from previous attempts at sharing information and knowledge through a common platform: a) A focus on integration and collaboration around knowledge, not on the creation of new tools; b) There will be no need for users to switch from the tools they currently use; c) The backing of the IWG, and the composition of the Task Force augur well for the future success of the Global Knowledge Commons.

The report is freely available on the [ISfTeH website](#). I invite you to download and read [this document](#).

Sincerely,

Prof. S. Yunkap Kwankam
Executive Director
International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth

WHO report on mHealth



The World Health Organisation secretariat published a report on '*mHealth: use of mobile wireless technologies for public health*', stating the potential of mHealth technologies, current WHO engagements in supporting the development and implementation of mHealth programs, and future mHealth priorities for the WHO.

The document can be found at http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB139/B139_8-en.pdf.

The ISfTeH is an NGO in Official Relations with WHO

Med-e-Tel 2016 presentations available online



This year's edition of the ISfTeH's annual Med-e-Tel event took place last April in Luxembourg. Presentations from the event are now available online at www.medetel.eu.

Presentations from all previous editions are also still available in the Knowledge Resource Center on the Med-e-Tel website.

And the [proceedings book](#) from the 2016 event is available for purchase.

The 2017 edition of Med-e-Tel is scheduled for April 5-7, 2017, with pre-conference workshops and meetings on April 4th. For more information or to participate in the event, contact info@medetel.eu.

Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth elects new board



Suomen Telelääketieteen ja e-Health seura
Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth

The Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth, national member for Finland in the ISfTeH, elected its new board of directors. The board members for 2016 are (from left to right on the picture below):

Teemupekka Virtanen, Paivi Metsäniemi, Raino Saarela, Pirkko Kouri (Secretary),
Arto Holopainen (President), Elina Kontio (Treasurer), Jarmo Reponen (Vice-President)



The program and abstracts book of their national conference on Telemedicine and eHealth which took place last April, has now also been made available. You can download it [here](#).

For more information, contact the [Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth](#).

TSA's (UK) latest e-Link with industry news and updates



TSA (formerly known as Telecare Services Association), the national member for the UK in the ISfTeH, is the UK industry body for Technology Enabled Care (TEC), bringing together a growing membership of organisations across local government, health and the private sector.

Their June 2016 e-Link newsletter, with latest news, opportunities and events from their UK network, has been published. You can access it [here](#).

MedCom (Denmark) supports Mexico in mapping digital health



The Danish Ministry of Health has entered into an agreement with the Mexican Ministry of Health on a joint initiative. [MedCom](#) (ISfTeH institutional member) is invited to participate as counsellor on mapping the digital part of the Mexican healthcare system, incl. telemedicine. The aim is to keep patients in the primary sector and improve the referral system to refer patients in a more structured and systematic manner. MedCom will support this work. Consequently, MedCom stations Dorthe Skou Lassen part time in Mexico from July 2016 to June 2018. Dorthe will continue to manage her current responsibilities in MedCom.

For more information, contact mhm@medcom.dk.

Webinar: telehealth's impact on the delivery of care in Australia



A 'perfect storm' of an ageing population, the rising rate of chronic conditions and increased expectations of both consumers and healthcare professionals is contributing to extraordinary demand on the Australian health system. Telehealth has the potential to improve efficiencies, reduce hospitalization and improve how healthcare services are delivered.

Join [Avizia](#) (ISfTeH corporate member) and a panel of 3 experts as they explore the impact of telehealth and its ability to increase the reach of physicians and expand the delivery of healthcare throughout Australia and beyond.

WEBINAR

Telehealth's Impact on the Delivery of Care in Australia

- REGISTER TODAY -

ANY PATIENT - ANY PROVIDER - ANY PLACE

DR. VICTORIA WADE
DR. ANTHONY SMITH
DR. SISIRA EDIRIPPLIGE

Avizia

This webinar is taking place on July 14th. [Sign up here.](#)

Women leaders in eHealth interviewed at Med-e-Tel 2016



During [Med-e-Tel 2016](#), Doyna Zharavina, Project Manager and Communication Officer at the [WeObservatory](#) (Women Observatory for eHealth) of the Millennia2025 Foundation, conducted a series of interviews with speakers and participants at the [Women, eHealth and Telemedicine](#) session (presented in collaboration with the ISfTeH Working Group on Women - WoW).

Two interviews have already been published on the [blog](#) of the WeObservatory, with [Elinaz Mahdavy](#) of Orange Healthcare and with [Pirkko Kouri](#), Vice-President of the ISfTeH.

More interviews are coming soon at [www.weobservatory.com](#). See photos of the Women, eHealth and Telemedicine session at Med-e-Tel 2016 in the photo gallery at [weobservatory.com/photo-gallery](#).

Latest issue of the Journal of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth published



The latest issue of the [JISfTeH](#) includes various original research articles, as well as a special theme on Telehealth in Brazil and also the Med-e-Tel 2016 abstracts.

You can view the table of contents and access the Journal at [www.jisfteh.org](#) (the Journal is open access, but you will have to login with a username and password in order to view the full text papers, or create a login if you don't have one yet).

Paper submissions for future issues of the JISfTeH are also welcome at [www.jisfteh.org](#). Or contact info@isfteh.org for more information.

Tele-defibrillation saves lives in the Himalayas



In May 2016, a 31 year male worker was brought to Keylong Telemedicine Centre (located at a height of 13,000 ft in the district of Lahaul and Spiti, operated by Apollo Telehealth Services (ISfTeH institutional member) for the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh as a PPP, started in April 2015) by a military doctor. The civilian contractor had developed chest pain, difficulty in breathing and pain radiating to the throat.

Within 7 minutes, Dr Bhasker, a Physician at the Emergency Dept Apollo Main Hospital remotely noted that the patient's BP was 90/60, heart rate 220 bpm and ECG showed supra ventricular tachycardia. The patient was asked to blow into a syringe with the piston on, to achieve Vagal Stimulation. After this procedure, the heart rate came down to 180 beats per minute, but again increased to 200. ECG repeated twenty minutes later showed no improvement. As the patient was deteriorating, Dr Dhavapalani, Head of ER at Apollo Main Hospital, advised the Emergency

Physician to facilitate remote defibrillation at the well equipped Apollo Telemedicine Centre at Keylong. Unfortunately the only very junior doctor available at that time in this remote isolated small town was not familiar with defibrillation. Dr Bhasker got a mannequin, demonstrated the procedure at Chennai and tele-mentored the doctor at the remote end who did the procedure. Following this intervention, the heart rate reduced to 108 beats per minute. After a period of observation, arrangements were made to transfer the now stable patient to the nearest higher centre 250km away.



Demonstrating defibrillation on a mannequin for emergency remote tele-defibrillation



Patient at Apollo Telemedicine Centre at Keylong



Patient after successful tele-mentoring of defibrillation at Keylong

Distance learning workshop

With advances in telecommunications and computer technology, new modalities have emerged to enhance education for anyone, anywhere, at any time, using digital and online media. Distance/blended learning has grown considerably in the last decade, thereby introducing new challenges in the learning landscape and offering the opportunity to bridge physical borders between students.

The [Institute of Tropical Medicine](#) in Antwerp, Belgium (ISfTeH institutional member) will organize, in collaboration with the Institute of Public Health (IPH) in Bangalore, a 5-day [workshop on distance & blended learning courses](#). The main goal of this workshop is to take participants through the planning, design, and implementation process of creating distance or blended learning modules: (i) getting familiar with a variety of distance/blended "formats", (ii) becoming acquainted with e-facilitation and e-assessment tools, and (iii) generating online materials from an initial raw project during the face-to-face workshop.

The workshop targets "pairs": subject-matter experts (planning to deliver educational topics in either blended or distance learning format) together with an ICT specialist/e-facilitator who will work closely with the content experts.

The program lasts 5 days, starting on Monday 19 September 2016. Twenty participants have been admitted. The selection was based on the applicants' motivation in terms of:

- involvement in actual or "about to start" distance/blended learning projects;
- management/development role in the field of online courses, e-facilitation and e-assessment in their home institution;
- commitment and support from home institution in engaging in distance/blended learning projects.

Institute of
Tropical
Medicine



www.itg.be

For additional info about ITM activities and future editions of the workshop, please contact Maria Zolfo, Educational Coordinator, ITM Clinical Sciences Department, mzolfo@itg.be.

A Century of Telemedicine

A new book on "A Century of Telemedicine" was launched at Med-e-Tel 2016 last April. This publication (341 pages), compiled by Anton Vladzmyrskyy, Malina Jordanova and Frank Lievens, provides an overview of telemedicine history over the past 100 years.

To view the table of contents, or to order your copy of the book [click here](#) or contact us.

[View Contents](#)
*A Century of Telemedicine
Curatio Sine Distantia et Tempora*



Anton Vladzmyrskyy,
Malina Jordanova, Frank Lievens

2016

Health policy in emerging economies: innovations and challenges

The International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (United Nations Development Programme), in partnership with the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz), has published a report on "Health policy in emerging economies: innovations and challenges".

The report focuses on developing countries that have exhibited significant progress across various health indicators. However, shortcomings remain regarding not only the financing of public health and social assistance interventions but also the regulatory and coordination capacities of governments, with the aim of ensuring complete, universal access to services and medicines. Domestic and international aspects (especially regarding regulatory frameworks, property rights and procedures for structured purchases) can translate into gaps and a lack of capacity to develop medicines, vaccines and other medical technologies.



The report includes a block of articles evidencing the **potential of the use of telemedicine initiatives** across various health fields, from the training of new professionals to the performance of examinations and differential diagnoses, to improve the quality of health care in remote areas.

Download a pdf copy of the report [here](#).

Upcoming ISfTeH meetings and conferences

21th ISfTeH International Conference

in conjunction with

7th International Conference on Transforming Health with IT

21-22 October 2016

Chennai, India

www.transformhealth-it.org



Med-e-Tel 2017

5-7 April 2017

Luxembourg, Luxembourg

www.medetel.eu

05-07 APRIL 2017

Med@Tel
LUXEMBOURG
BY ISfTEH

Other ISfTeH supported events:

Health Informatics Morocco Workshop 2016. eHealth and Telemedicine in Mediterranean Countries

13-15 July 2016

Rabat, Morocco

[website](#)

The International Technology Enabled Care Conference

18-19 October 2016

Birmingham, United Kingdom

www.tsa-voice.org.uk/international-conference

3rd eCardiology and eHealth Congress

26-28 October 2016

Berlin, Germany

www.e-cardiohealth.com

BIOSTEC 2017

Porto, Portugal

21-23 February 2017

www.biostec.org

ICT4AWE 2017. 3rd International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies for Ageing Well and e-Health

Porto, Portugal

28-29 April 2017

www.ict4ageingwell.org

ISfTeH Supported Events Calendar and Other Telemedicine/eHealth Events

Corporate Member Spotlight



Brasil Telemedicina is the largest Brazilian company operating in the telemedicine market, since 2010 (president: Dr. Carlos Eduardo Camargo Cassiani). The company provides services in all 27 states in Brazil, more than 500 cities, totaling in June of this year three million interactions between physicians. Its performance is especially wide in the examination of activity reports at a distance, with great benefits to the entire population. It carries out a varied number of reports and tests, fast, accurately and of high quality to hospitals, clinics, ambulance systems, occupational medicine and homecare.

Brasil Telemedicina will be attending in September 2016 the "HIS-Hospital Innovation Show" in São Paulo and will launch 3 new products: MEDICO24HS, PSICOLOGIA24HS and MEDICOVET. With a versatile and modern structure, it is going to present medical care for different specialties, from psychiatric and psychology sessions through apps in iOS platform and Android beyond conventional web platforms. The same is going to happen in the field of veterinary medicine. In addition to the new products, Brasil Telemedicine will also launch a real-time ECG monitoring system connected to our web system which monitors patients in their homes, on their trips, in surgeries in distant cities (mainly where not specialists are available).

Using these applications, the web systems and small 3G transmission devices, patients will be able to have direct contact with doctors for basic guidelines and chronic disease monitoring in their homes or when traveling, everything happening in real time.

* * *

A **Brasil Telemedicina** é a maior empresa brasileira atuando no mercado de telemedicina. Em atividade desde 2010, tendo como presidente o médico Dr. Carlos Eduardo Cassiani Camargo presta serviços em todos 27 estados do Brasil, em mais de 500 cidades, e totaliza neste mês de junho 3 milhões de interações entre médicos. Sua atuação é ampla principalmente na atividade de laudos de exames à distância com grande benefício a toda a população. Através da realização de laudos de variado número de exames de forma rápida, precisa e de alta qualidade atendem desde hospitais, clínicas, sistema de ambulâncias, medicina ocupacional e homecare.

Em setembro próximo no evento HIS - HOSPITAL INOVATION SHOW que acontecerá na cidade de São Paulo, a Brasil Telemedicina lançará 3 novos produtos. São eles o MEDICO24HS, PSICOLOGIA24HS e MEDICOVET. Com uma estrutura versátil e moderna apresentará atendimento médico de várias especialidades, sessões de psiquiatria, psicologia através de APP em plataforma IOS e Android além da plataforma web convencional. O mesmo ocorrerá na

área da medicina veterinária. Agregado aos novos produtos estará lançando um sistema de monitorização em tempo real de traçado de eletrocardiograma conectado ao nosso sistema web onde acompanharemos pacientes em suas residências, em viagem, cirurgias em cidades distantes principalmente onde não possuam especialistas. Utilizando aplicativos, sistema web e pequenos aparelhos de transmissão 3G os pacientes poderão ter contato direto com médicos para orientações básicas, acompanhamento de doenças crônicas em suas residências, em viagens, tudo em tempo real.

For more information: www.brasiltelemedicina.com.br

Board Member Spotlight - Meet Rajendra Pratap Gupta (India)

I have done my graduation in science and social sciences, and hold a Master's degree in Innovation and Change Management from the York St. John University (UK). I have also done a certificate course in retailing from the Harvard Business School and a course in corporate governance from the Kellogg School of Business (USA). Currently, I am pursuing my doctorate in healthcare.



For over two decades I have worked across the continuum of care. I have served as an advisor/board member with pharmaceutical companies, insurance company, nutraceutical/OTC company, hospital boards, healthcare IT companies, disease management companies, retail pharmacy chains, R&D companies, FMCG company, investors, policy makers and industry organizations. Also, I have been associated with organizations across USA, Europe, UK, Middle East and India. Based on my contributions to healthcare, I was felicitated by the sheriff of Los Angeles as the 'Global Healthcare Leader of the Year' in 2012. For three years in a row, I was named the 'Thought Leader of the Year' by ICT Post, and honoured by Medgate Today as amongst the '25 Living Legends of Healthcare in India'. I have authored articles/columns for leading publications and written the healthcare bestseller 'Healthcare Reforms in India- Making up for the Lost Decades' published by Elsevier. I have given lectures across the world.

Considering the contribution to the healthcare reforms in India, the Government of India nominated me to the apex advisory body of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare i.e. The Central Council of Health & Family Welfare for a two year term.

I have been a contributor to the United Nations, WHO , ITU and the World Economic Forum as an observer, speaker and an author and continue to push the health reforms agenda.

I continue to lead the Government Industry Dialogue on Healthcare in India, and I firmly believe, that 'Digital Health for All' is a pre-requisite for 'Health for All' and I will continue to propagate the adoption of healthcare IT across the continuum of care to ensure that healthcare is transparent, accountable and outcome driven.

New ISfTeH members

The ISfTeH is pleased to welcome the following **new members** to its global network:



Institutional Members



The Open University, UK

Individual Members:

*Mark Banfield, South Africa
Carlisle Saint Martin, USA
Florie Brizel, USA*

*Luiz Ary Messina, Brazil
Thais Russomano, Brazil
Marlise dos Santos, Brazil*

S. Tony Hashemian, USA

Nurse Members:

Castor Aguilera, Luxembourg
Ann Fronczeck, USA

Student Members:

Yasir Elsanosi, Sudan
Thanadej Rakphrmanee, Thailand
Fatima Sanz de Leon, Switzerland
Zahidul Alam, Bangladesh

Samir Irshaid, Germany
Sameera Shafique Chowdhury, Bangladesh
Jessica Ortiz Huerta, Germany
Samuel Onyinzo, Germany

Angelina Sperl, Germany
Adiba Tasnim, Bangladesh
Sinisa Cicik, Croatia
Mohamed Bouras, USA

[Click here for full member list or to join as a new member.](#)

Join the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth



- Are you heading a national or regional telemedicine/eHealth organization?
- Do you offer telemedicine products and solutions?
- Are you doing research on telemedicine and eHealth applications and technologies?
- Does your organization provide (or wants to offer) care services by means of telemedicine/eHealth technologies?
- Are you engaged in healthcare policy?

If so, you should consider **joining the ISfTeH network** to expand your global reach, enhance your network, broaden your knowledge and learn about key issues and new ideas in telemedicine and eHealth by interacting and engaging in partnerships with other ISfTeH members from around the world.

Or if you are interested in **obtaining exposure in future editions of this newsletter** (through advertising, feature articles, etc.), contact us at info@isfteh.org.

For more information: www.isfteh.org

Partners & Corporate Members

The ISfTeH is proud to work together with the following Partners, representing doctors, nurses, students, industry and policy makers:



ISfTeH Corporate Members and supporters:



If your organization would like to collaborate with the ISfTeH or if you would like to become a member, contact us at info@isfteh.org.

Questions, suggestions? Our board members listen to you!

The ISfTeH board members will be pleased to hear from you with any questions or suggestions you may have related to the Society itself or regarding any telemedicine and eHealth applications or services that you are working on or that you are looking for:



Andy Fischer



Pirkko Kouri



Andre Petitet



Markus Lindlar



Anthony Maeder



Roberto Rocci



Piotr Skarzynski



Adolfo Sparenberg



Regina Ungerer



Rajendra
Pratap Gupta



Mina Abdulla
Hamoodi

Management Board



Yunkap
Kwankam



Frederic
Lievens



Frank
Lievens

Submit your questions/suggestions via info@isfteh.org.

ISfTeH Lifetime Achievement Awards

The ISfTeH occasionally recognizes and honours a person who has made great efforts in the development of telemedicine and eHealth, creating awareness and driving its implementation and use. Our three Lifetime Achievement Award laureates so far are:



Louis Lareng



Ron Merrell



Gyorgy Miklos
Bohm

Watch this space for future ISfTeH Lifetime Achievement Awards!

STAY CONNECTED:



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[Click here for membership application](#)

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